

REMARKS

The above Amendments and these Remarks are in reply to the Office Action mailed March 25, 2004 ("Office Action") in patent application Serial No. 09/559,835. Claims 1-41 are currently pending.

In the Office Action, the Examiner has allowed claims 4-25. Claims 1 and 3 have been amended.

Claims 1-3 and 26-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

I. Rejection of Claims 1-3 and 26-41 Under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-3 and 26-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Claims 1 and 3 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner by claiming "a group of bus lines of the bus" at lines 6 and 7, respectively. In claim 3, line 4, [first] and [line] has been removed.

In rejecting claim 26, the examiner stated:

[T]he preamble starts with a method of controlling a memory device.
However, the body of the claim basically recites four steps of "issuing".
It is not clear within the claim when the memory is being controlled.
Office Action, page 2.

The Applicants' Attorney respectfully submits that claim 26 is fully compliant with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, which states "The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention." It is unclear why "when the memory is being controlled" is relevant within the context of claim 26, since this claim does not make any reference to "when the memory is being controlled".

Claims 2 and 27-41 depend from claims 1 and 26 and are likewise patentable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claims 1-3 and 26-41 under 35 U.S.C. §112.

II. Conclusion


Based on the above amendments and these remarks, reconsideration of claims 1-3 and 26-41 is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501826 for any matter in connection with this response, including any fee for extension of time, which may be required.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____


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